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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 3, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 29 totaled an estimated 16.6 billion ton-miles, 9.8 percent below the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 13 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 220.9 billion ton-miles, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 29 totaled 364,866, down 8.5 percent from last year, and 4.3 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 12.4 percent in the East, 11.4 percent in the South and 4.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 17 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased, with coal loadings showing a decline of 11,410 cars (9.6 percent). Sixteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 22 totaled 99,420 trailers and/or containers, 13.3 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 12 weeks of the year was 1,125,252 trailers and/or containers, up 13.1 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/29/86:

	Loadings in Week ended March 29, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	15,071	D	4,276	19.1	D	2,532	12.3
Other farm products	2,732	D	436	13.8	D	38	1.4
Metallic ores	13,692	I	765	5.5	D	866	5.6
Coal	107,906	D	11,410	9.6	D	5,523	4.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,947	I	1,236	10.5	I	1,005	8.4
Nonmetallic minerals	6,152	D	4,084	33.4	D	1,009	11.0
Grain mill products	9,607	D	1,352	12.3	D	506	5.0
Food and kindred products	10,680	D	610	5.3	D	21	0.2
Primary forest products	10,011	D	2,453	19.5	D	426	4.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,578	I	841	10.9	I	88	1.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,054	D	1,864	12.6	I	65	0.5
Chemicals and allied products	24,641	D	2,944	10.7	D	1,372	5.3
Petroleum products	3,780	D	858	16.5	D	531	12.3
Stone, clay and glass products	8,711	D	1,615	14.2	I	214	2.2
Coke	3,470	D	1,243	23.8	D	666	14.4
Metals and products	7,475	D	454	4.6	I	846	9.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,420	D	3,764	16.4*	D	3,370	15.0
Waste and scrap materials	7,707	D	2,280	22.8	D	810	9.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,833	D	1,456	20.8	D	80	1.4
All other carloads	44,014	D	4,433	7.4	D	738	1.1
LCL traffic	122	D	44	29.9	D	39	27.5
Total Cars Loaded	364,600	D	33,888	8.5	D	16,309	4.3

	Week	1985	% Change
Total cars loaded (13 weeks)	4,878,340	4,773,869	I 0.7

Estimated revenue (millions):			
12 weeks ended March 22	204.1	202.1	I 1.1
Week ended March 29	16.6	18.5	D 9.8
13 weeks cumulative	220.9	220.5	I 0.2

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